GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2158
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2017
UNICEF Report on Malnutrition
Innocent Shri

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that hundreds of children die in the national capital due to malnutrition and hunger, according to UNICEF report released thereon;
(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
(c) the number of annual untimely deaths of children in various metropolitan cities, city-wise, during the last three years;
(d) the various schemes that are in place for the welfare of children and to provide healthcare and food to them; and
(e) the steps taken to reverse the trend by reducing child mortality rate in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ)

(a) & (b): This Ministry is not aware of any such report. However, malnutrition is not a direct cause of death but contributes to mortality and morbidity by reducing resistance to infections.

(c): The data on number of deaths of children is not maintained by this Ministry.

(d) & (e): This Ministry is implementing several schemes and programs like Anganwadi Services under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, Scheme for Adolescent Girls and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojna as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of malnutrition in the country.

Further, interventions are also carried out under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme of National Rural Health Mission of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, such as promotion of Infant and Young Child Feeding practices, Treatment of children with severe acute malnutrition at special units called the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres, program to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies, Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses, Nutrition Education during Village Health and Nutrition Days, and growth monitoring of children up to three years by promoting use of Mother and Child Protection card.

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